

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-02 /152 W
-----120257 082029Z /21

R 081825Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9231
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 10579

USEEC

PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG
SUBJECT: CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT SPEECH ON ENERGY

1. SUMMARY. SPEAKING TO THE ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCIAL

ENTERPRISES (MUNICIPAL UTILITIES) ON APRIL 14 CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT
REITERATED THAT THE FRG WOULD PUSH AHEAD ON ITS
PROGRAM TO DECREASE IMPORTS OF PETROLEUM, INCREASE THE
USE OF DOMESTIC COAL, AND ACCELERATE USE OF NUCLEAR
ENERGY. HE ALSO CALLED ON THE U.S. TO ENACT AN ENERGY
PROGRAM ON AN URGENT BASIS IN THE INTEREST
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"OF THIS PLANET". END SUMMARY.

2. COAL OR NUCLEAR? -- SCHMIDT SAID THAT IN REGARD
TO GERMANY IT WAS A MISTAKE TO PRESS THE QUESTION
SHOULD COAL OR NUCLEAR PREDOMINATE IN PROVIDING FUTURE
ENERGY SUPPLY FOR THE FRG. HE WENT ON TO SAY: "WE
WILL NEED TO PRESS ON WITH ECONOMIZING ON ENERGY,

WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY STRIVING TO PROVIDE FOR INCREASED DEMAND. HERE AT HOME IN THE FRG COAL WILL REMAIN THE CENTRAL DOMESTIC SOURCE OF ENERGY. WE MUST MAKE USE OF THE TRADITIONAL ENERGY FUELS, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME DEVELOPING NEW ALTERNATIVES AND SUPPLEMENTARY SOURCES OF ENERGY."

"THE SITUATION ALSO MEANS THAT WE ARE GOING TO BE UTILIZING NUCLEAR ENERGY; AND THAT, IN TURN, MEANS PUSHING AHEAD WITH ALL ASPECTS OF RESEARCH, WORKING OUT PROSPECTS OF HIGHER DEGREE OF UTILIZATION OF ATOMIC FUEL, AND OTHER OPTIONS--POSSIBILITIES THAT UP TO NOW, INSTEAD OF HAVING BECOME PRACTICAL PLANS OF OPERATION, HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO REMAIN MORE OR LESS IN THE BLUEPRINT STAGE."

3. WORLD DEMAND FOR OIL -- SCHMIDT CONTINUED, "ANOTHER SITUATION FORCING OUR HAND IS THAT THERE ARE CONSTANTLY MORE DEMANDS FOR ENERGY ON THE WORLD MARKET. THE CONSEQUENCE IS THAT ON THE SUPPLY SIDE WE SHALL NEED TO DIVERSIFY OUR RISKS BY HAVING A GREATER VARIETY OF SOURCES. AND MORE SPECIFICALLY WE SHALL NEED TO REDUCE OUR DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED PETROLEUM.

"THE PROBLEM IS COMPLICATED BY GROWING DEMAND FOR ENERGY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (AND FOR DEVELOPING

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COURTRIES, WE CERTAINLY WISH A HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING AND WE ARE HELPING THEM TO GET IT). YET WE MUST REALIZE THAT A HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING IS ONLY POSSIBLE WITH HIGHER ENERGY COMSUMPTION."

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4. THE ROLE OF THE U.S. -- TURNING TO THE SITUATION
IN THE U.S., THE CHANCELLOR CONTINUED, "NOW LET ME
SAY SOMETHING FOR OUR AMERICAN FRIENDS, HOPING MY
MESSAGE WILL BE CIRCULATED ABROAD. WHAT I WOULD
LIKE TO SAY IS THIS: WE WOULD LIKE, VERY URGENTLY,
FOR THE U.S. PRESIDENT TO SUCCEED IN CONGRESS WITH
HIS ENERGY PROGRAM. IN FACT, THIS MUST BE THE URGENT
WISH FOR THE WHOLE WORLD. FOR AMERICAN SUCCESS WITH
THE U.S. ENERGY PROGRAM IS OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE FOR
THE FUTURE ENERGY SUPPLY OF THIS PLANET. MORE
IMMEDIATELY: SUCCESSFUL AMERICAN HANDLING OF THE
U.S. ENERGY PROBLEM IS GOING TO BE A KEY TO WHAT
HAPPENS--THIS YEAR STILL--TO THE WORLD ECONOMY."
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5. DOLLAR WEAKNESS LINKED TO U.S. OIL IMPORTS: "THE
GLOBAL SIGNIFICANCE OF WHAT THE AMERICANS NOW DO, OR
DON'T DO, ABOUT ENERGY WILL CONTINUE TO BE ESPECIALLY
EVIDENT IN THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FIELD. THE TRADE
DEFICIT OF THAT COUNTRY ALONE COMES TO 30 BILLION
DOLLARS WHICH WORKS OUT AFTER ADJUSTMENT TO A BALANCE
OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT OF 20 BILLION DOLLARS. THE MAIN
CAUSE OF THIS DEFICIT IS THE DOUBLING OF U.S. IMPORTS
OF PETROLEUM IN THE SHORT SPACE OF THREE YEARS. THE
ADDITIONAL IMPORTS HAVE BEEN PAID FOR WITH PAPER, NOT
IN GOODS AND SERVICES, AND THIS PAPER HAS BEEN
CIRCULATING THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. AGAINST THIS
BACKGROUND I AM QUITE SURE OF THE INTERCONNECTION
BETWEEN WHAT AMERICA DOES ABOUT ITS ENERGY PROBLEMS

AND WHAT HAPPENS TO THE DISTORTED WORLD MONETARY
SITUATION."
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